

1                                   **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
2                                   **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

3           United States of America,

Case No.: 2:20-cr-00268-JAD-NJK

4                   Plaintiff

**Order Granting Motion to Strike Pro Se  
Letter Filed  
in Violation of Local Rule 11-6(a)**

5           v.

6           Michael David Thompson,

7                   Defendant

ECF Nos. 113, 114

8  
9           Michael Thompson, a criminal defendant represented by counsel, has filed a barely  
10 legible letter regarding his health and representations of counsel.<sup>1</sup> Thompson is again advised  
11 that the court does not respond to letters or take action in response to letters; requests for relief  
12 must be made by motion.<sup>2</sup> And because Thompson is represented by counsel, he cannot  
13 personally file motions at this time; it is his attorney who must file motions on his behalf. Local  
14 Rule 11-6(a) explains that “A party who has appeared by attorney cannot while so represented  
15 appear or act in the case. This means that once an attorney makes an appearance on behalf of a  
16 party, that party may not personally file a document with the court; all filings must thereafter be  
17 made by the attorney.”<sup>3</sup>

18           In light of these rules, if Thompson believes that relief is necessary, he must ask his  
19 attorney to bring a motion on his behalf. Thompson is again cautioned that not all arguments  
20 that a defendant believes should be raised are meritorious, and there may be valid legal or

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<sup>1</sup> ECF No. 113.

23           <sup>2</sup> Fed. R. Crim. Proc. 12(b).

<sup>3</sup> LR IA 11-6(a).

1 strategic reasons that trained counsel may find it unnecessary, improper, or unwise for a criminal  
2 defendant to bring an issue to the attention of the court.

3       Accordingly, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Government's Motion to Strike that  
4 letter **[ECF No. 114] is GRANTED**; the Clerk of Court is instructed to **STRIKE Thompson's**  
5 **letter [ECF No. 113] from the docket.** Defense counsel is directed to provide a copy of this  
6 order to Thompson and consult with him regarding the issues he has raised in this letter.

7       DATED: June 29, 2021.

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11 JENNIFER A. DORSEY  
12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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